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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/566,027	12/01/2006	Makoto Iwai	71,051-027	9309
27305 7590 03/04/2009 HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS PLLC 450 West Fourth Street Royal Oak, MI 48067				
EXAMINER				
PRICE, ELVIS O				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1621				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/04/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/566,027

Applicant(s)

IWAI ET AL.

Examiner

ELVIS O. PRICE

Art Unit

1621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SG/US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 5-31 are pending in the application.
2. Applicant's amendment and remarks, filed 1/2/09, are acknowledged.
3. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/2/09 has been entered.
4. All claims (claims 5-31) remain rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Westmeyer et al. {US Pat. 6,356,696} for reasons of record given in the previous Office Action issued 10/2/08.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/2/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant has amended the independent claims (claims 5, 14 and 29) to further claim a step of separating the carboxylate from the hydroalkoxysilane and then argues that such a step renders the presently claimed invention novel and non-obvious over the teachings of Westmeyer et al. because Westmeyer et al. do not teach or suggest a step of separating the carboxylate from the hydroalkoxysilane. Applicant argues, that rather, Westmeyer et al. teaches that filtration of their compositions is done after a hydrosilation reaction when no Si-H is left in the composition.

This argument is not convincing because it is known from Westmeyer et al. that the carboxylates are stabilizing agents for the silanes (e.g., hydroxyalkoxysilane) in the Westmeyer et al. composition. One having ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teachings in Westmeyer et al., would have known how to stabilize a hydroalkoxysilane for later use as a hydrosilation reagent, at the very least. Also, one having ordinary skill in the art recognizing that the carboxylate is an insoluble solute in the hydroalkoxysilane and desiring to separate the carboxylate from the hydroalkoxysilane so as to solely use the hydroalkoxysilane, would have easily gleaned how to separate the carboxylate from the hydroalkoxysilane (e.g., by filtration). Thus, the presently added step of separating the carboxylate from the hydroalkoxysilane would have been obvious to one skilled in the art in view of the teachings of Westmeyer et al. Therefore, the presently claimed invention is *prima facie* obvious over Westmeyer et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ELVIS O. PRICE whose telephone number is (571)272-0644. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel M. Sullivan can be reached on 571 272-0779. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Elvis O. Price/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1621